

*November 14, 2007*

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman [Mansfield](#) (CA-12) sent the following letter to [Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs](#), in response to a request from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for comments on the proposed new PTSD clinic at the Livermore VA Medical Center.

The study, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, finds Iraq veterans with substantial PTSD symptoms are more likely to be hospitalized for mental health issues than those without PTSD symptoms.

November 14, 2007

The Honorable Gordon H. Mansfield, Acting Secretary

U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs

810 Vermont Ave. NW

Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Acting Secretary Mansfield,

In meeting with many veterans from throughout my district and hearing their stories, I have become incre

As a result, I am also increasingly concerned about the availability of VA services for veterans with both

With this in mind, I read with great interest a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association w

In addition, the study's most disturbing finding indicates that rates of mental distress are dramatically high

This study offers just the latest compelling evidence that we must do more to address the long-term men

The Livermore VAMC Campus is a perfect fit for the kinds of needed mental health services highlighted

In my conversations with Secretary Nicholson before his departure, he indicated to me his willingness to

Unfortunately, Secretaries Principi and Nicholson made decisions that will lead to the closure of the Live

Furthermore, the Livermore VAMC Campus is less than fifteen miles from Parks Reserve Forces Trainin

I urge you to strongly consider how the Livermore campus could be employed by the VA to treat the men

Sincerely,

Jerry McNerney

Member of Congress

